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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 19, 2019.

I hereby appoint the Honorable HENRY CUELLAR to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 3, 2019, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

HONORING JAN ALLEN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. ADAMS) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Jan Allen, an extraordinary North Carolinian and a personal friend.

Jan was a trailblazer who worked tirelessly to level the playing field for women in politics in North Carolina, and she did a tremendous job at her work.

Twenty-two years ago, she founded Lillian's List to get more women elect-

ed to political office at the State level. I had the great privilege of working with Jan during my time in the North Carolina General Assembly over those 21 years. I had the great privilege of working with Jan during my time throughout Congress, as well.

There is no way to qualify the impact that Jan had on the State of North Carolina, but I know that, because of Jan, more women have held office in the State and more women are continuing to run.

Thanks to Jan, laws have been passed to improve the lives of women, families, and children, and North Carolina is a better place to live for everyone.

My thoughts and prayers will continue to be with Jan's family, her friends, and my entire North Carolina community. I thank Jan Allen for her work, and may the Lord continue to bless her and her family.

CATTLE COUNTRY NEEDS USDA'S MARKET INVESTIGATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, this is a town where investigations can last for years, and sometimes, they cost millions. There are other investigations that are insignificant, little things. They are just meant to check a box so we can move onto the next task.

Yes, I think we all know that, in D.C., there are two types of investigations, investigations that are for show and investigations that are for real. Well, in cattle country, we need an investigation for real.

Times have been tough, really tough for cattle producers, especially the last couple of years. The producers that I know, they don't ask for guarantees or handouts. All that they want is a fair chance to earn a living. Unfortunately,

prices have been soft, and those producers aren't sure that the market is accurately applying margin to our feeders and to our ranchers.

Following the Holcomb fire, the market experienced extreme volatility. The producers that I know, smart and savvy professionals, are telling me that what happened in that aftermath did real damage to the viability of their businesses and to their way of life.

That is why I was grateful to see USDA, under the Packers and Stockyards Act, open up an investigation into the cattle market. An investigation like that does not happen every day, and it has folks in South Dakota anxiously awaiting the results. I know that I am.

What I have seen so far, what I have heard so far from USDA, gives me a good feeling that they are conducting this investigation for real, that they are working hard to gather and analyze the pertinent data. They want to get to the bottom of this. They want to determine to what extent, if any, there were unfair trade practices or market manipulation.

That kind of a determination, Mr. Speaker, won't be easy. It will require real effort, real persistence, a real willingness to dig deep.

As I said at the beginning, there are two types of investigations in this town, those that are for show and those that are for real. It looks like USDA is conducting this investigation for real, and thank goodness for that, because our cow-calf folks deserve that, our feeders deserve that, and, Mr. Speaker, our country deserves that.

ELIMINATE FORCED ARBITRATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CUNNINGHAM) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1423, the

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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